



# LITTLE RED RIVER CREE NATION

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January 17th, 2021

Re: COVID-19 Vaccination Rates

To all LRRCN Residents and Members,

Be careful what you believe when it comes to seeing things on the internet or hearing about things someone else saw. Unless it comes from a trusted source that relies on science it could be lies or taken out of context. Trusted websites are World Health Organization, Public Health Agency of Canada, Alberta Health or CDC. LRRCN uses Public Health Guidelines from Alberta Health.

Spreading false information is very dangerous because it makes people hesitant to take the COVID-19 vaccine. We need as many people as possible to take the vaccine to protect the people who cannot take it (children 17 and under, people who are allergic to the vaccine, etc.). We need herd immunity against this virus.

**First Nations people are not being used as “guinea pigs”.** The Pfizer vaccine for COVID-19 went through clinical trials with over 44 000 people taking part to test for safety and effectiveness. The Moderna vaccine had over 30 000 participants. These vaccines use the same mRNA technology and are very similar; both are safe and effective.

These vaccines have been administered to priority populations, usually health care workers and the elderly since December 2020 all over the world. As of January 16th, 2021, over 39 million vaccines have been administered in the world. Over 540 000 in Canada and over 85 000 in Alberta. And after all those people have been vaccinated, they are still deemed safe and effective.

The people of LRRCN are in a unique position. We have a very vulnerable population with high-risk medical conditions, and less access to medical care. Our leadership have advocated very hard for us to have early access to this vaccine so we can be protected before the rest of Alberta.

But the vaccine does not work unless people take it. What will you choose?

Thank you,

LRRCN Emergency Management Team

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